

ATTACHMENT A

CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A surgical fastening device for pinning a surgical filament to a body tissue, comprising:

- (f) ~~(a)~~ a grasping handle;
- (g) ~~(b)~~ a slender shaft extending from the grasping handle, the shaft having a distal end;
- (h) ~~(c)~~ a compartment configured to contain one or more surgical fasteners ;
- (i) ~~(d)~~ an activatable ejecting mechanism ejecting a surgical fastener from the ~~compartment~~ distal end of the shaft; and
- (j) ~~(e)~~ a filament dispensing system configured to dispense surgical filament ~~along the shaft, so that a fastener grasps the filament when being ejected from the shaft~~ at the distal end of the shaft, a fastener grasping the filament ejected from the distal end of the shaft.

2. (original) The surgical fastening device according to Claim 1 wherein the ejecting mechanism is spring mechanism, a hydraulic mechanism or a pneumatic mechanism.

3. (currently amended) The surgical fastening device according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~ further comprising a cutter for cutting the filament.

4. (original) The surgical fastening device according to Claim 3 wherein the cutter comprises a blade, a hot wire, or an RF generator.

5. (currently amended) The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 further comprising a surgical filament.

6. (original) The surgical fastening device according to Claim 5 wherein the filament is a mesh, a ribbon, a strip, a wire, a net or a thread.

7. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 wherein the fasteners are contained in the shaft.
8. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 further comprising one or more surgical fasteners.
9. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 8 wherein the fasteners comprises a barbed prong extending from a disc.
10. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 9 wherein the fasteners comprise two or more barbs.
11. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 9 ~~or Claim 10~~ wherein the fasteners have spring like fins extending from the disc.
12. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 9 to 11~~ Claim 9 wherein the fasteners have barbed projections extending from the disc.
13. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 9 wherein the fasteners comprise a helical wire having a first barbed end and a second end attached to a propeller.
14. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 8 wherein the fasteners comprise a crown from which extend two prongs.
15. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 8 wherein the fasteners comprise a socket configured to receive a rotatable driving rod.
16. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 7 further comprising one or more surgical fasteners in the shaft.
17. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 16 wherein the fastener has a ring portion from which extend two barbed prongs.
18. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 16 wherein the fastener has an unconstrained configuration in which the prongs curve outwards from the ring portion and a constrained state in which the prongs are straight and parallel to a longitudinal axis of the ring portion.

19. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 18 wherein the fasteners are maintained in the constrained state in the shaft.
20. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 wherein a fastener is pinched so as to grasp the filament when being ejected from the shaft.
21. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 20~~ Claim 1 wherein a fastener pierces the filament when being ejected from the shaft.
22. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 20~~ Claim 1 wherein a fastener passes through a hole in the filament when being ejected from the shaft.
23. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 20~~ Claim 1 wherein notches are formed along edges of the filament and prongs of a fastener enter the notches when being ejected from the shaft.
24. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 wherein the filament has spaced apart bulges.
25. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 7 further comprising a ratchet mechanism preventing movement of fasteners in the shaft towards the grasping handle.
26. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 wherein the ejecting mechanism is located in the grasping handle.
27. **(original)** The surgical fastening device according to Claim 1 configured to screw a fastener into a body tissue.
28. **(currently amended)** A surgical fastener for use in the surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1.
29. **(original)** The surgical fastener according to Claim 27 formed from a biodegradable material.

30. **(currently amended)** The surgical according to Claim 27 ~~or 28~~ formed from stainless steel or Nitinol™.
31. **(currently amended)** A surgical filament for use in the surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 24~~ Claim 1.
32. **(original)** The surgical filament according to Claim 30 made from a biodegradable material.
33. **(currently amended)** Use of a surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 27~~ Claim 1 for attaching a surgical filament to a body tissue.
34. **(currently amended)** The surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 27~~ Claim 1 for use in attaching a surgical filament to a body tissue.
35. **(currently amended)** A method for pinning a surgical filament to a first location of body tissue in a body cavity comprising introducing into the body cavity a surgical fastening device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 27~~ Claim 1, into the cavity and ejecting a first surgical fastener from the shaft so as to pin a surgical filament to the first location.
36. **(original)** The method according to Claim 35 further comprising ejecting a second surgical fastener from the shaft so as to pin the filament to a second location of body tissue in the cavity.
37. **(original)** The method according to Claim 36 wherein the filament is stretched taut between the first and second locations before the second fastener is ejected.
38. **(original)** The method according to Claim 37 for use in the treatment of stress incontinence, inguinal hernia, pelvic organ prolapse, gastroesophageal reflux, laproscopic anastomoses of a tubular organ, and repair of ureteropelvic obstruction.